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Dr Gifford is a veterinarian who was formerly National Manager of the Canadian Centre for Veterinary Biologics, Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Ottawa, Canada. Since 2016, he has been working on a secondment to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) where he works in the Antimicrobial Resistance and Veterinary Products Department at the OIE Headquarters in Paris.

The OIE is the intergovernmental organisation which is responsible for improving animal health worldwide. Through its staff at Headquarters and Regional Offices, and a network of experts in Collaborating Centres and Reference Laboratories, the OIE develops science-based international standards, guidelines and recommendations for animal health and veterinary products. It also delivers a broad range of disease monitoring, technical training, and capacity-building activities for its 182 Member Countries.

Dr Gifford's main responsibilities at the OIE involve contributing to the development and revision of OIE technical standards for vaccines and other animal health products, which are published in the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*. He serves on several vaccine-related advisory committees, and is currently working with a group of bovine tuberculosis experts to coordinate an international collaborative study to evaluate potential replacements for the OIE's International Standard Bovine Tuberculin.